

U.S. Serial No. 09/940,924

NIP-241

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously presented) A method of managing consumer goods used in an analyzer, comprising the steps of:

recording consumption information on consumer goods used in the analyzer;

sorting said consumption information of said consumer goods according to consumer goods supplier; and

transmitting the sorted consumption information to a management unit for the analyzer or consumer goods suppliers' supply management units.

2. (Previously presented) A method of managing consumer goods used in an analyzer, comprising the steps of:

recording consumption information on consumer goods used in the analyzer;

sorting said consumption information of said consumer goods according to consumer goods supplier; and

transmitting the sorted consumption information to a supply management unit for a consumer goods vendor that intermediates between a management unit for the analyzer and consumer goods suppliers.

3. (Canceled).

U.S. Serial No. 09/940,924

NIP-241

4. (Previously presented) A method of managing consumer goods used in an analyzer, comprising the steps of:

recording consumption information on consumer goods used in the analyzer;

sorting said consumption information of said consumer goods according to consumer goods supplier;

transmitting the sorted consumption information and supply management information to a management unit for the analyzer, consumer goods suppliers' supply management units or a consumer goods vendor's supply management unit;

confirming supply status based on the consumer goods supply management information; and

requesting payment from an analyzer administrator, consumer goods suppliers or a consumer goods vendor in consideration of use of the information based on said sorted consumption information.

5. (Previously presented) A method of managing reagents used in an analyzer, comprising the steps of:

recording consumption information on reagents used in the analyzer;

sorting said consumption information of said reagents

U.S. Serial No. 09/940,924

NIP-241

according to reagent supplier; and

transmitting the sorted consumption information to a management unit for the analyzer or reagent suppliers' supply management units.

6. (Previously presented) A method of managing reagents used in an analyzer, comprising the steps of:

recording consumption information on reagents used in the analyzer;

sorting said consumption information of said reagents according to reagent supplier; and

transmitting the sorted consumption information to a supply management unit for a reagent vendor that intermediates between a management unit for the analyzer and reagent suppliers.

7. (Canceled).

8. (Previously presented) A method of managing reagents used in an analyzer, comprising the steps of:

recording consumption information on reagents used in the analyzer;

sorting said consumption information of said reagents

U.S. Serial No. 09/940,924

NIP-241

according to reagent supplier;

transmitting the sorted consumption information and supply management information to a management unit for the analyzer, reagent suppliers' supply management units or a reagent vendor's supply management unit;

confirming supply status based on the reagent supply management information; and

requesting payment from an analyzer administrator, reagent suppliers or a reagent vendor in consideration of use of the information based on said sorted consumption information.

9. (Previously presented) An apparatus for managing consumer goods used in an analyzer, comprising:

means for recording consumption information on consumer goods used in the analyzer;

means for sorting said consumption information of said consumer goods according to consumer goods supplier; and

means for transmitting the sorted consumption information to a management unit for the analyzer or consumer goods suppliers' supply management units.

U.S. Serial No. 09/940,924

NIP-241

10. (Previously presented) An apparatus for managing consumer goods used in an analyzer, comprising:

means for recording consumption information on consumer goods used in the analyzer;

means for sorting said consumption information of said consumer goods according to consumer goods supplier; and

means for transmitting the sorted consumption information to a supply management unit for a consumer goods vendor that intermediates between a management unit for the analyzer and consumer goods suppliers.

11. (Canceled).

12. (Previously presented) An apparatus for managing consumer goods used in an analyzer, comprising:

means for recording consumption information on consumer goods used in the analyzer;

means for sorting said consumption information of said consumer goods according to consumer goods supplier;

means for transmitting the sorted consumption information and supply management information to a management unit for the analyzer, consumer goods suppliers' supply management units or a consumer goods vendor's supply management unit;

U.S. Serial No. 09/940,924

NIP-241

means for confirming supply status based on the consumer goods supply management information; and

means for requesting payment from an analyzer administrator, consumer goods suppliers or a consumer goods vendor in consideration of use of the information based on said sorted consumption information.

13. (Previously presented) A method of managing consumer goods used in an analyzer as claimed in claim 1, further comprising the step of analyzing the consumption status of consumer goods used in the analyzer according to consumer goods supplier and according to consumer goods supplied thereby.

14. (Previously presented) A method of managing consumer goods used in an analyzer as claimed in claim 2, further comprising the step of analyzing the consumption status of consumer goods used in the analyzer according to consumer goods supplier and according to consumer goods supplied thereby.

15. (Previously presented) A method of managing consumer goods used in an analyzer as claimed in claim 4,

U.S. Serial No. 09/940,924

NIP-241

further comprising the step of analyzing the consumption status of consumer goods used in the analyzer according to consumer goods supplier and according to consumer goods supplied thereby.

16. (Previously presented) A method of managing reagents used in an analyzer as claimed in claim 5, further comprising the step of analyzing the consumption status of reagents used in the analyzer according to reagent supplier and according to reagents supplied thereby.

17. (Previously presented) A method of managing reagents used in an analyzer as claimed in claim 6, further comprising the step of analyzing the consumption status of reagents used in the analyzer according to reagent supplier and according to reagents supplied thereby.

18. (Previously presented) A method of managing reagents used in an analyzer as claimed in claim 8, further comprising the step of analyzing the consumption status of reagents used in the analyzer according to reagent supplier and according to reagents supplied thereby.

U.S. Serial No. 09/940,924

NIP-241

19. (Previously presented) A method of managing consumer goods used in an analyzer as claimed in claim 9, further comprising the step of analyzing the consumption status of consumer goods used in the analyzer according to consumer goods supplier and according to consumer goods supplied thereby.

20. (Previously presented) A method of managing consumer goods used in an analyzer as claimed in claim 10, further comprising the step of analyzing the consumption status of consumer goods used in the analyzer according to consumer goods supplier and according to consumer goods supplied thereby.

21. (Previously presented) A method of managing consumer goods used in an analyzer as claimed in claim 12, further comprising the step of analyzing the consumption status of consumer goods used in the analyzer according to consumer goods supplier and according to consumer goods supplied thereby.